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The Lincoln eLetter



Blanche Lincoln – U.S. Senator for Arkansas

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Dear Fellow Arkansan,

We are poised for a truly historic moment in the Senate Agriculture Committee with the unveiling of a bill that makes the largest investment in our child nutrition programs to date. On Wednesday, [unveiled the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010](#), a bipartisan, fiscally responsible bill making the largest investment in federal child nutrition programs to date.

This proposal is a monumental step forward as we work to end childhood hunger and address the epidemic of childhood obesity in the United States. It invests roughly \$4.5 billion in new funding in child nutrition programs over the next ten years – more new money than we have provided for child nutrition programs since their inception.

Today, I was proud to stand with my colleagues and leaders from the public health community and food and beverage industry to announce [a major agreement on national school nutrition standards for all foods sold in schools](#).

This legislation will also mark the first time since the inception of the National School Lunch Program that Congress has dedicated this level of resources to increasing the program's reimbursement rate. It also invests heavily in new initiatives designed to automatically enroll more eligible low-income children with our National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs and includes a major expansion of afterschool feeding programs.

The legislation aims to ensure that all children eligible for nutrition programs are actually participating, improve the quality of meal benefits, and modernize and improve the integrity of the programs. The legislation is fully paid for.

This bill complements the tremendous work that has been done in Arkansas. From stronger local wellness policies, to improved nutrition requirements for the Child and Adult Care Food Program, to funding to bring healthy, local foods into schools, this bill is an incredible step in the right direction toward teaching our children the healthy habits they need to live longer, more productive lives.

An Important Note About the Lincoln eLetter

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I look forward to visiting with you again soon.

With Arkansas Pride,

B. D. D.

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Blanche L. Lincoln



U.S. Senator Blanche Lincoln, D-Ark., Chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, announces a major agreement between the food and beverage industry and public health and education groups on national school nutrition standards for all foods sold in schools. Leaders from the public health community and food and beverage industry participated in the announcement.

Senator Lincoln's
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